

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 24, 2004

CONTACT: MUFFY BERRYHILL  
530-229-8300

**FIRST 5 SHASTA AWARDS FUNDING TO  
LOCAL 0-to-5 PROJECTS**

REDDING (June 24, 2004)-----New projects aimed at meeting the needs of young children, ages 0-to-5, and their families will receive funding from First 5 Shasta, the Shasta Children and Families First Commission. At a June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Shasta Commission, "Special Opportunity" funding was awarded to three recipients. Two additional awards will be finalized by the end of summer. Upon completion, a total of \$40,000 in Special Opportunity funds will be awarded through this competitive grant process.

The following funding commitments have been announced:

- Fall River Lions Club - \$10,450.00  
Project: Fall River Lions Community Park playground – purchase and installation of age-appropriate, safe playground equipment for children under five years of age.
- Loving Arms Doula Services - \$6,855.00  
Project: Education, resources, and consistent support for mothers and families during the childbirth period; promoting a positive birthing and family atmosphere. A doula is described as a woman who mothers the mother.
- Shasta Community Health Center - \$6,425.00  
Project: Purchase of an Ear/Nose/Throat microscope that will support ENT service for low-income infants/children.

The next round of Special Opportunity funding will be available in Fall 2004. To obtain more information about Special Opportunity Funding, visit the First 5 Shasta web site at <http://ccfc.ca.gov/shasta> or call 530-229-8300.

# # #